

pump house and draws water from Sampson Pond to flood Bog 22 for the morning pick. When he returns home, he checks the weather and waits.●

PARTNERS OUTDOORS FAIR

● Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to call to the attention of my colleagues a most unusual and informative event which took place in the Senate Energy Committee hearing room on May 8 and 9. The first Partners Outdoors Fair was hosted by the committee and organized by six Federal agencies and the Recreation Roundtable, a group comprised of the chief executives of more than 20 of the leading recreation-oriented companies in America. The fair was a great success, celebrating the imaginative and effective work taking place across the nation through partnerships involving Federal, State and local agencies, private corporations and others.

The idea for the Partners Outdoors Fair was conceived in early 1995 at the Partners Outdoors conference in Florida, an annual meeting of public and private organization leaders committed to the protection of America's wonderful outdoors resources and the enhancement of the recreational experiences of visitors to federally-managed areas. Candidates for programs to be showcased at the fair were submitted by all six Federal agencies taking part in the conference: the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Corps of Engineers, and the Bureau of Reclamation. From the dozens of submissions, 20 displays were selected to represent diversity in focus, partners and size.

As chairman for the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I was very enthusiastic upon learning of the plans for the fair and was pleased to offer the use of our hearing room for this important 2-day event. As you might guess, Mr. President, I was particularly enthusiastic about those displays that showcased successful programs in my State of Alaska. One of these, an eye-catching display describing fishing restoration efforts and the Wallop-Breaux Fund, prominently featured the creation of a new sportfishing opportunity at Homer Spit in Alaska. Thanks to the determined efforts of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and several State agencies—as well as to the millions of Americans whose purchases of fishing equipment and motorboat fuels make the Wallop-Breaux fund viable—Homer Spit has seen a steady return of large chinook salmon and has been made more accessible to children, the elderly and those with physical disabilities.

Another display featured a successful partnership including ARCO, the Anchorage School District, the National Audubon Society, Alaska Pacific University, and the BLM. The diverse collection of entities pooled its resources to design the Campbell Creek Environ-

mental Education Center, a 10,000-square foot facility that will be built by the BLM on Campbell Tract in Anchorage. Targeted for completion in 1996, the Campbell Creek facility will provide children and others with the opportunity to experience the outdoors, learn about wildlife and understand the role people play in the local and global environments. The center will also promote behaviors, practices and lifestyles that have minimal impact on the environment. Still another display described the interpretive programs used aboard cruise ships that ferry visitors to Alaska's majestic Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. These programs greatly enhance the cruise experience and are the result of a collaborative effort between companies such as Holland America and the National Park Service.

The fair features many other outstanding displays about partnerships in operation around the country, and those who stopped by saw that the number of partners involved was breathtakingly large and diverse. For example, a program entitled "WOW—Wonderful Outdoor World," which aims at introducing city kids to the pleasures of camping and other outdoor recreational activities, was established with contributions from the Walt Disney Co., the city of Los Angeles, the Bureau of Land Management, the Coleman Co., Chevy/Geo, California State University at Long Beach, and the U.S. Forest Service, among others. Another good example was Tread Lightly, a program to help protect public and private lands through the responsible use of off-highway vehicles. Tread Lightly involves the Forest Service, Four Wheeler Magazine, the Izaak Walton League, Goodyear, Jeep, Honda, Toyota, Ranger Rover, the Perlman Group, and Warn Industries. There were many others worthy of mention. Mr. President, I would ask that a complete list and description of the featured displays appear in the RECORD immediately following my remarks.

Mr. President, there have long been, and continue to be, debates in this country over whether the private or public sector can accomplish certain tasks more effectively. And today, perhaps more than at any other time since the drafting of the Constitution, there is much discussion about whether State and local governments are better equipped for certain tasks than the Federal Government. I do not expect that a relatively small, 2-day event in the Senate Energy Committee hearing room will by itself lay these contentions debates to rest. However, I do believe the Partners Outdoors Fair made great strides in calling our attention to the fact that it does not always have to be one or the other. The public sector can work with the private sector, and the Federal Government can work with State and local governments. In fact, when the particular resources and expertise of each come together in a collaborative effort, the results are pre-

cisely what we saw on display on May 8 and 9. In addition, the projects displayed at the fair made clear that progress can be made even without large increases in Federal budgets and even without specific legislative direction.

Mr. President, I would also like to mention an important event that took place on the afternoon of May 9, as the Partners Outdoors Fair was winding to a close. At that time, I joined with Francis Pandolfi, the president and CEO of Times Mirror Magazines and chairman of the Recreation Roundtable, in a news conference at which the Recreation Roundtable released the results of its latest national survey of public attitudes regarding outdoor recreation. Joining us was Edward Keller, executive vice president of Roper Starch Worldwide, the organization that performed the study for the roundtable. One of the most interesting aspects of this event was the presentation of a new national index—the Recreation Quality Index [RQI]—which reflects public perceptions regarding changes in recreation opportunities, quality of experience and personal participation. Regarding the significance of this development, I agree wholeheartedly with Mr. Pandolfi, who called the RQI "a new, important expression of public opinion which can help guide and measure the impact of policy decisions in Washington and decisions by companies providing recreation goods and services. The RQI provides the first comprehensive reflection of satisfaction with outdoor recreation in America—not just a specific service provided or a specific recreational product."

Mr. President, I strongly encourage my colleagues to heed these words and to carefully study the recreational needs of the American people when considering legislation that affects our public lands and other issues that affect the \$300 billion plus recreation industry in America.

The material follows:

PARTNERS OUTDOORS—1995

FISHERIES RESTORATION: SUCCESSES FROM COAST TO COAST

America's anglers and boaters pay special federal taxes and fees totaling more than \$300 million annually—most of which is deposited into the Wallop-Breaux Fund. A sizeable portion of that money is then provided as grants to state fisheries agencies for fisheries research, habitat improvements, fisheries management activities and for expanded access to public waters by anglers and boaters. The monies have had direct and very successful consequences for fisheries from coast to coast. In Alaska, Wallop-Breaux funding was used to create a new sportfishing opportunity at Homer Spit, close to the homes of many Alaskans and accessible by children, persons with physical challenges and the elderly. Research into sensory impregnation has brought a steady return of large Chinook salmon to an area previously without any sizable run.

Similarly, federal assistance has been used on the east coast by Maryland and other states to arrest the precipitous decline in striped bass populations. Research efforts

and fisheries management activities qualified for 75% federal funding. As in many cases, the decline in the fishery was attributable to a combination of pollution and over-fishing. States along the east coast responded with an ambitious recovery plan, limiting fishing and undertaking some mitigation projects. The result is a strong return of this popular sportfish in the Chesapeake Bay and surrounding areas and a reopening of fishing for this species.

Partners in this effort include the millions of Americans purchasing fishing tackle and motorboat fuels, the fishing tackle industry which "fronts" the tax monies, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state fish and wildlife agencies across the nation.

AQUATIC RESOURCES EDUCATION EFFORTS

Aquatic Resources Education Programs are underway across the nation, thanks to Wallop-Breaux partners. Focusing chiefly on youth, the programs teach subjects as diverse as science and safety, fishing techniques and ethics. Up to 10% of each state's Wallop-Breaux Fund allocation can be used for these programs; overall, about 5% of the total funding to states is being spent on these efforts. In ten years, some two million young people have participated in state aquatic resources education projects, and the programs are growing in size and sophistication.

One of the imaginative partnerships which has evolved in aquatic resources education has been Pathway to Fishing. Initiated by Outdoor Technologies Group and expanded to include federal agencies ranging from the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to the Bureau of Reclamation as well as Wal-Mart and other companies, Pathway events have occurred at hundreds of sites across the nation. Pathway can be conducted by a lake, river or pond—or even in a parking lot or open field. Kids learn and have fun, regardless. Volunteers from organizations such as B.A.S.S. and Trout Unlimited as well as federal and state agencies act as instructors in this 12-learning station effort.

Another major focus of aquatic resources education is National Fishing Week, which began on June 5. Hundreds of events will be held across the nation. Partners in this effort include the American Sportfishing Association, fishing tackle companies, federal and state agencies, recreational fishing organizations and the media.

WALLOP/BREAUX: MAKING OUR WATERS BETTER FOR BOATING AND FISHING

Although relatively new, the Wallop/Breaux program is already causing tremendous positive changes in fishing and boating—as well as in the health of our nation's surface waters. Using a 10% federal excise tax at the manufacturer/importer level imposed with the support of industry plus the federal motorfuel excise tax collected on gas used in recreational boating, Wallop/Breaux provides grants to states for fisheries management, for improved boating and fishing access, for aquatic resources education programs, for wetlands restoration, for construction of marine waste disposal sites and for boating safety efforts by the U.S. Coast Guard and state and local agencies.

Using 3:1 matching federal grants, Wallop/Breaux program partners accomplished the following between 1986 and 1993: built 1600 new public boat launching ramps and related facilities, including parking areas and restrooms; improved 9,700 public boat ramps; built 600 roads to open up access to public waters; installed directional signs for thousands of boating and fishing access sites; developed over 1,500 new fishing access sites; and acquired at least 170 properties and over 50,000 strategic acres to improve access to public waters.

In 1992, the Wallop-Breaux program was amended to add a new emphasis on wetlands restoration. A new revenue source—the federal excise tax on fuels used in lawnmowers, chainsaws, snowblowers and other small-engine items—was approved by the Congress. Approximately \$50 million per year is now invested in this wetlands effort.

Partners in Wallop/Breaux include more than thirty national recreation and conservation organizations which constitute the American League of Anglers and Boaters, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state fishery and boating agencies, the U.S. Coast Guard and America's anglers and boaters.

WOW—WONDERFUL OUTDOOR WORLD

On opposite coasts of the nation last year, two groups of individuals addressed the lowered rate of exposure of today's youth to traditional outdoor recreational activities such as camping, fishing, hiking and wildlife viewing. Many factors are behind this drop, from the lure of indoor pastimes to changes in the structure of our families. The conversations joined and a unique national partnership resulted called "WOW—Wonderful Outdoor World." Now operating in a pilot effort in Los Angeles, the program brings tents, lanterns, sleeping bags, fishing poles and other recreational items to the neighborhoods of city kids and offers them camping adventures within blocks of home. The program doesn't end with this first exposure; "graduates" are helped to understand the outdoor fun opportunities near-by and the organizations available to make this fun accessible—from city and county agencies to the Boy Scouts. Current partners include the Walt Disney Company, the City of Los Angeles, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Recreation Roundtable, the Coleman Company, Chevy/Geo Environmental, Ralphs Grocery Company, California State Parks, Wells Cargo Trailers, California State University at Long Beach and the L.A. Times. Partners hope to learn from the monthly camping adventures for 9-12 year-olds between May 1995 and April 1996 and to expand the program both in Los Angeles and to more cities.

SMOKEY BEAR BALLOON FLOATS ACROSS AMERICA

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of Smokey Bear, the Forest Service and many friends and partners helped create a new non-profit organization based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to build and "campaign" a new hot air balloon in the shape of Smokey Bear. Towering 85 feet high and 75 feet across, the balloon has already made almost 100 flights. The balloon travels with a specially constructed trailer, donated by Fleetwood Enterprises, which offers an outstanding fire and conservation ethics message. This newest icon for Smokey, one of America's best known and best loved symbols, is totally privately funded but works in close harmony with federal and state forestry organizations. Smokey recently flew in formation with another famed American symbol—Mickey Mouse—at the Walt Disney World Resort, celebrating both the partnerships reflected by the balloon and the origin of the idea for the balloon—at the first Partners Outdoors conference at the Florida site.

WINTER SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Approximately half of all downhill skiing in the United States occurs at ski areas operating on national forests. Private funding has been used to build the lifts and other facilities, which are then operated under long term permits which return revenues to the government. The ski areas also assist the Forest Service with wildlife management, interpretation and other programs.

A partnership was established among the U.S. Disabled Ski Team, Olympic Gold Med-

alist Sarah Will, Dick Bass of Snowbird, the National Ski Area's Association and the U.S. Forest Service in 1994. At this time, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by Under Secretary Jim Lyons, Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas and the President of the National Ski Area's Association Michael Berry. The MOU supports enhancing public awareness of ecosystems through environmental education at ski areas at National Forest lands, particularly ski areas, increasing partnership recognition, encouraging stewardship of public land and demonstrating the availability of the National Forests to people of all ages, abilities and cultures.

TREAD LIGHTLY

This program was started by the Forest Service in 1986 to help protect public and private lands through education about responsible use of off-highway vehicles. To maximize its effectiveness, Tread Lightly, Inc., a non-profit organization funded and managed by the private sector, was incorporated in 1990. Tread Lightly unites manufacturers, publishers, environmental groups and individuals who share a basic commitment to recognize and protect our valuable resources. Some of these partners are: Jeep, Honda, Toyota, Range Rover, the Perlman Group, Warn Industries, the Izaak Walton League, Goodyear and Four Wheeler Magazine.

ACCESS AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS

The partnership is among the American Recreation Coalition, the Forest Service, MIG Communications, Quickie Designs and Wilderness Inquiry. It involves a comprehensive approach to integrating universal access to outdoor recreation environments and supports the full implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Efforts on this program were inspired by the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors. Among the products of this partnership are: a design guidebook offering practical and creative information to public and private recreation facility operators alike; improved facilities across the nation; demonstrations for the Western Governors Association and recreation community leaders and national awareness through media stories.

BACK COUNTRY BYWAYS

The Bureau of Land Management's Back Country Byways program now includes more than 70 routes, showcasing some of the scenic and cultural best of the West. The BLM program has enjoyed the active support of national partners such as the American Recreation Coalition, Farmers Insurance Companies and American Isuzu as well as dozens of local corporate, municipal and civic organizations. Three outstanding byways have been developed recently in the state of Arizona. Historic Route 66 is a part of many family histories dating back to the 1920s. The 42-mile scenic road offers an outstanding side-trip for visitors traveling to Arizona, California and Nevada. The Historic Route 66 Association, Kingman, Oatman and Topack chambers of commerce, Mohave County and Arizona state governmental agencies have worked cooperatively to develop and promote this back country byway.

In March 1994, the Black Hills Back Country Byway was dedicated celebrating "Riches from the Earth." This 21-mile road journeys through rough terrain, provides opportunities for rockhounding, viewing wildlife, hiking, rafting the Gila River and many other activities as well as seeing one of the nation's largest copper mining sites. This byway was developed as a partnership with Phelps Dodge and the Graham and Greenlee Counties and chambers of commerce.

BLACKFOOT CHALLENGE

Facing population growth and the consequences of poor land use practices in the past, the large and lovely Blackfoot River valley in Montana was threatened and in need of comprehensive action. The Bureau of Land Management led efforts to develop a common vision for the region and then enlist public and private partners able to turn the vision into reality. The result is both astonishing and encouraging. Major corporations such as Plum Creek Timber and Phelps Dodge Mining have joined federal agencies, environmental organizations, local governments and private citizens to develop a land use strategy for the area, target priority sites for clean-ups and other mitigation and communicate goals to landowners in the area. The effort has been aided by use of GIS and other new technologies. The valley now has a markedly more positive future.

BLM: HIDDEN PARTNERSHIPS IN THE EAST

BLM has developed partnerships with numerous states, oil and gas companies, wild horse and burro adopters, as well as historically black colleges and universities. These organizations have worked together to protect wildlife habitat, introduce non-traditional publics to the outdoors, improve recreation opportunities, protect fragile ecosystems and cultural resources, and improve environmental education programs.

NATIONAL RIVER CLEAN-UP WEEK

As the national coordinator, America Outdoors originated this program in 1992 in partnership with federal agencies and the private sector. The organizations participating include: Bureau of Reclamation, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, American Canoe Association, American Rivers, American Whitewater Affiliation, North American Paddle Sports Association and The National Association of Canoe Liveries and Outfitters.

Since the inception of this partnership, 100,000 volunteers have participated in 1,600 clean-ups covering 30,000 miles of waterways. American Outdoors donates staff time for promotion, coordination, fund raising, distribution of trash bags and development of educational materials. The federal agencies provide logistical support to volunteers for clean-ups on public land, assist with the acquisition of trash bags and coordinate clean-ups. The private sector promotes clean-ups among their membership and provides educational material on the value of maintaining healthy riparian zones and waterways.

CAMPBELL CREEK (ALASKA) ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

A partnership, including ARCO, Anchorage School District, National Audubon Society and Alaska Pacific University along with BLM, designed the Campbell Creek Environmental Education Center that will be located in a residential facility and will be built by the BLM on the Campbell Tract in Anchorage. The facility will be completed in 1996 and will include a 10,000 square-foot education center, two dormitories, outdoor amphitheater and interpretive trails. The center will provide children and others with the opportunity to experience the outdoors, learn about wildlife and understand the role people play in the local and global environment. The center will also promote behaviors, practices and lifestyles that have minimal impact on the environment.

PUBLIC LAND APPRECIATION DAY

PLAD was initiated by Times Mirror Magazines (TMM) in 1994 and encourages conservation-oriented volunteers to help diminish the huge back-log of restoration projects on our nation's public lands.

Through TMM, reaching 30 million readers, a call to action was given that mobilized

forces to public land sites across the country. Five federal government agencies—the Bureau of Land Management, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Forest Service, the Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service are partners with TMM. At each site, agency staff oversee the PLAD volunteers who work on restoration projects. All the tools needed to accomplish the work are donated by the PLAD corporate sponsors.

PLAD started with two pilot sites in 1994 and has expanded to 15 sites in 1995. By the end of the century, there will be hundreds of PLAD sites throughout the country and people will know that on the last Saturday in September they can go to a local site to do their part.

LAKE HAVASU (ARIZONA) FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

This program partnership includes the Bureau of Land Management, Anglers United, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Bureau of Reclamation, California Department of Fish and Game, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is the largest and most comprehensive warm water fisheries project ever undertaken in the United States. The \$28.5 million program meets the needs of a host of anglers, revitalizes the fishery, and restores populations of native fish in Lake Havasu.

This program will increase access for all shoreline anglers by construction of foot trails, fishing docks, access roads and parking areas. Other facilities such as fish cleaning stations, ramadas with picnic tables, interpretive areas and restrooms will be added in eight access areas. Over 150 artificial habitat structures will be placed in the lake to provide spawning sites, feeding locations and escape cover for the declining populations of sport fish. Volunteers are a major factor in the construction and placement of artificial habitat structures in the lake. Hundreds of volunteers contribute thousands of hours each year at work sites on the lake. Community involvement complements the partner contributions to implement this program. The Lake Havasu Fisheries improvement program provides exhibits and a habitat construction station for participants and their families so that they actually help make structures on site.

CONSERVATION GOOD TURN

Conquistador Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the Roswell District of the BLM brought 300 scouts and scouters to the dunes in southeast New Mexico. They learned the eight principles of Leave No Trace camping from BLM staff and scouters that were trained by a BLM specialist. An afternoon was devoted to conservation projects in the area. Fences were built and repaired; boundary signs were hung on those fences; concrete was mixed and poured to set poles for other signs; picnic tables were painted; and over one and one-half tons of litter was removed from the area and the adjacent highway. At the end of the project, BLM and the BSA signed a Memorandum of Understanding to make Conservation Good Turn an annual event.

LAKE LANIER AND THE 1996 OLYMPICS

In December 1993, Lake Lanier was selected as the venue for the 1996 Olympic rowing and sprint and canoe/kayak events. Immediately following the announcement, the city of Gainesville, Hall County and the Mobile and Savannah Districts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began a cooperative effort to prepare the site for the July 1996 competition. Through this partnership, leases, reviews, permit approval processes, cultural resources surveys and environmental clearances were all expedited. Con-

struction is currently underway and the project is on schedule. After the Olympic games, the site will be used for local, state and national rowing and/or sprint and canoe/kayaking events.

SPECIAL HANDICAPPED HUNTING AND FISHING OPPORTUNITIES IN GEORGIA

The Augusta and Atlanta areas are regional centers for spinal cord injury patients. The Savannah District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers formed a partnership with the Georgia Handicapped Association, the Southeastern Paralyzed Veterans Association, local bass clubs and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to provide improved hunting and fishing opportunities for physically challenged sportsmen. The first special hunt was for Eastern wild turkeys and took place on April 1, 1991, on J. Strom Thurmond Lake for 11 sportsmen confined to wheelchairs. It was the first hunt of its kind on public lands and resulted in nationwide publicity. In the second series of hunts, 65 physically challenged sportsmen participated in a deer hunt at Richard B. Russell Lake and harvested 62 deer during the 1993 and 1994 seasons. For the past 3 years, bass tournaments were sponsored in the Georgia and South Carolina areas. Bass club fisherman provided the boats and were paired with a physically challenged sportsman. Additional hunts and fishing tournaments are scheduled for this season.

FISHERIES HABITAT ENHANCEMENT IN MISSISSIPPI

This program is a project of Enid and Sardis Lakes in the Vicksburg, Mississippi District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Members of the Sardis, Batesville, Oxford and Yalobusha County bass clubs and the Otoucalfa Sportsman's Club collect Christmas trees, donated by the public, and place them in the Enid and Sardis Lakes as fish shelters. The partnership included the Mississippi Highway Department and South Central Bell who donated anchoring material and excess wire for the project.

CHATFIELD WETLANDS

A 20-acre wetland serving as a wildlife sanctuary and environmental education center was created and is now being sustained by a unique partnership of federal and state government agencies, Martin Marietta Astronautics and local conservation enthusiasts. The area is located within Chatfield State Park, Colorado's most visited park, located just minutes from Denver. Already an example of a partnership, since Chatfield is a Corps of Engineers area being operated by the state, Chatfield became even more "cutting edge" when innovative state and industry leaders devised an innovative way to reuse 350,000 gallons of treated, high quality waste water from a Martin Marietta plant. Rather than a long-distance pumping operation to discharge the water into a high volume water body, as required by federal and state regulation, the waste water is instead deposited into a new wetland area close to the plant site. Volunteers planted grasses and other vegetation and the site was in use by waterfowl within days of initial discharges. Martin Marietta has also paid for the construction of a viewing site at the wetland area, which is immediately adjacent to a planned trail hub center and an existing major environmental education center. The site is readily accessible for school trips and has become a real asset for the Denver area.

PARTNERS IN INTERPRETATION

More than a billion visits are made each year to America's parks, forests and other public lands. In many cases, little or no contact occurs between the visitors and the federal officials managing the areas because of

manpower limits, inadequate visitor facilities and the pattern of visitation. Yet recently, the Forest Service and the National Park Service have launched imaginative programs to reach more visitors with interpretation programs which add substantially to the quality of the experience. In both cases, the agencies work in partnership with private businesses serving visitors in the areas: resorts and campgrounds, AMTRAK, motor-coach tour operators and cruise lines serving Alaska. The results are exciting—and appreciated by the visitors.

More than 150,000 people each year are now treated to the majesty of Glacier Bay aboard cruise ships. Most of these visitors have the added advantage of special interpretive programs about the land and the bay and the diverse wildlife found here. Companies such as Holland American have entered into agreements with the National Park Service which provide for two NPS interpreters to be on-board the ships, holding regular seminars and answering questions. The cruise lines pay for this service and provide the facilities needed by the NPS, even helping to sell guidebooks and other items. The cruise ships allow hundreds of thousands of people to see areas like Glacier Bay without construction of the on-land facilities which would be required for normal visits. Everyone benefits!

The Forest Service has developed similar cooperative arrangements with hotels and resorts in the Pacific Northwest and with AMTRAK, putting a trained Forest Service interpreter on key trains in the West, for example. Again, private sector contributions offset the cost of the interpreter to the agency, and the private sector also provides the interpretation site eliminating the needed for federal outlays for construction.●

GREEK FOLK FESTIVAL

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I would like to call to the attention of our colleagues the Greek Folk Festival sponsored by St. Nicholas' Greek Orthodox Church this upcoming weekend. While this celebration is obviously enjoyed by parishioners of St. Nicholas, the entire community also relishes this wonderful festival. St. Nicholas is led by Father Manuel J. Burdusi, a man whom many applaud as a pastor who has developed a strong community within St. Nicholas, including a dynamic youth fellowship.

I would also like to bring to the attention of my colleagues that this festival contributes greatly to the preservation and enhancement of the historic culture of the Greek-American community. The Greek Folk Festival includes educational and cultural activities, live music and dancing, authentic Greek food and pastries, and most importantly, wholesome family entertainment. I would like to highlight an excellent article in today's Evening Sun newspaper by Jacques Kelly, highlighting the magnificent people that make this festival a superb event that is acclaimed year after year. Mr. President, I ask that the article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Baltimore Evening Sun, June 8, 1995]

PRIEST HELPS HIGHLANDTOWN KEEP THE FAITH
(By Jacques Kelly)

It seems that everybody in this part of East Baltimore knows "the priest."

He is the Rev. Manual J. Burdusi, the 33-year-old pastor of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox church, the spiritual home of many Highlandtown families.

Father Manuel, as he is called, is the former altar boy who came back to his home parish wearing a cleric's black robes. He grew up on Bonsal Street near Francis Scott Key Medical Center. His church is in the 500 block of S. Ponca St. He is one of the pivotal personalities here.

Part of the reason so many East Baltimore Greeks know Father Manuel is that they watched him grow up.

As a 10-year-old, he assisted at the Divine Liturgy. Then he joined the choir. After his studies at Hellenic College and the Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, Mass., he returned to Baltimore. He was ordained in 1989 and named the church's pastor four years ago.

"I have always felt comfortable on the path that led me to the priesthood. It felt like home," Father Manuel said.

He also kept things in the family by marrying a woman named Malama (Molly), who also sang in the choir. They have a son named Nicholas, the saint's name commemorated in the church.

One of the hardest things is to bury a person you've known so well in this neighborhood," he said one day this week.

The loss of a family member in this close-knit community is strictly observed. Many widows wear black after a husband dies. Families have memorial prayer services in the church 40 days after a death. This is often repeated six months later, then after a year, and on the third anniversary.

At funerals, the custom is to have the deceased in an open casket. Close family members kiss the corpse on the cheek. Others may kiss the hand or forehead or a religious icon.

"The formal process of mourning is therapeutic. It helps with dealing with grief. It forces the family back into the life of the church," Father Manuel said.

The life of the church is often the life of this neighborhood. Witness the tremendous activity for this weekend's Greek Folk Festival sponsored by the church. From tomorrow through Sunday, Ponca Street will explode with people, music, food and dancing. It has become one of the city's most popular summer events.

Family ties, church and tradition all mix within this tight community.

Blocks of rowhouses branch off Eastern Avenue in this part of Highlandtown known to some as The Hill, to others Greek Town. Many immigrants from the Greek islands settled here in the 1960s and 1970s. With them came their own grocery stores, bakeries, places to sip strong coffee and talk, and restaurants.

Father Manuel's family, for example, came from an island that was controlled by Italy for some years. His surname, Burdusi, reflects this.

His parish has its origins in a little school established here in the late 1940s. It was torn down and the present church built in 1956. Today, it has 1,200 families on its mailing list. Of these, some 700 are active.

"At times it is so busy, it feels like more," the pastor said. "When it gets very rushed I have to ask my wife, 'Did we pay the bills this month?'"

Father Manuel wears a beeper and is on call at all times.

"I don't want anybody to say they couldn't get a call into a priest," he said.

It is not uncommon for his parishioners to walk to Sunday services. Some 575 of his families reside in the 21224 Zip Code. Another 120 live in Rosedale and 100 more in Dundalk. The parish has a large and vigorous youth

organization that its pastor feels is the cornerstone of the community.

Throughout the festival, Father Manuel will be giving church tours—4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Friday, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday—during which he will explain the rich collection of Christian art here. Just this past Easter, the church unveiled a vibrant mural of Mary, the mother of Jesus, the Christ child and saints Basil, Gregory, Nicholas and John Chrysostom.

Father Manuel also answers questions about the elaborate religious ceremonies here.

When recently asked, for example, how much incense is used on a typical Sunday, the priest thought for a moment and quietly replied, "Ten tablespoons."

AMMUNITION CONTROL

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, as some Senators may know, I had intended to offer an amendment to the antiterrorism legislation to update the existing statute prohibiting the manufacture, sale, and importation of armor-piercing ammunition. My amendment would have simply revised current law to cover new projectiles capable of penetrating the soft body armor worn by most law enforcement officers. However, as part of the agreement negotiated by the managers to permit completion of the bill yesterday, all amendments relating to firearms were dropped.

Senator BRADLEY and I planned to offer a separate amendment requiring development by the Department of the Treasury of uniform standards for the testing of armor-piercing ammunition. This is an important effort which I fully support, and I regret that we were not able to offer this amendment.

Unfortunately, the amendment by the Senator from New Jersey failed to address the more immediate danger presented by the presence today in stores nationwide of certain bullets capable of penetrating police body armor. I learned of this ammunition only last week from the FBI. It obviously poses a serious threat to law enforcement.

It has been well over a decade since I first introduced legislation to eliminate the armor-piercing bullets. I first became aware of problem in 1982, and with the help of the Patrolman's Benevolent Association of New York City, as well as other law enforcement groups, helped secure enactment in 1986 of the original statute banning so-called cop-killer bullets. In 1993, I secured passage of a provision in the crime bill, which became law in September 1994, to include in the definition of armor-piercing ammunition the Swedish-made M39B round. When I learned last week that other armor-piercing rounds exist which elude the ban, I immediately began work on an amendment to update the statute once again.

Unfortunately, I was not in a position to offer this amendment to S. 735. As I have said, amendments on this subject were not permitted under the unanimous consent agreement. Even if